



Acorns.  
Oct 11<sup>th</sup>



Oct 11<sup>th</sup>

P51CM60



Silver Birch

OCT: 18<sup>th</sup>

Nov:

Nov:

Nov:



Nov: 12<sup>th</sup>

Looking out side the  
form room, we saw a sweet little  
Field mouse, in a ~~the~~ clearing in the  
undergrowth. It found something to eat  
- we could not see what - and then  
sat up ~~on~~ ~~it~~ and nibbled it, ~~a~~ when  
it had finished, it darted away.

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Nov: 15<sup>th</sup>

The stormy weather we  
have been experiencing lately, has  
made a great difference to the trees,  
and many of them are standing gaunt  
and bare, whilst the ground is  
covered with dead leaves. Nearly all  
the bird emigrants have now flown

Nov: 16<sup>th</sup>

As we were going up to the  
works this morning, a little grey squirrel  
ran - quite slowly - across the Monks' Path,  
and disappeared up a tree.

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Nov: 22<sup>nd</sup> The Stinking Iris, or Faetid Iris, is not very common, and is usually found in East Kent. It appears to like the chalky soil, and grows in great clumps, in the undergrowth in woody places. The Flower is mauve, and the berries are a bright orange.

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Nov: 26<sup>th</sup> Looking out of the Form-room window, this-morning, we saw a bird which looked rather like a blue-tit, on one of the trees outside. He was standing with his feet dug into the bark, and appeared to be pecking at the bark; he was the same shape as a blue-tit, but he had not the same bright colouring. We think it may have been a coal-tit.

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Dec: 3<sup>rd</sup>

Looking out of the dining-room window, during lunch, we saw a lovely

P34 CMUGO



Yew Berries.

October 25<sup>th</sup>



P55 CM 60



Aspen Poplar  
November 1<sup>st</sup>

Green-Woodpecker in one of the trees. He gave us quite a long time to study him, before he flew away.

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Guelder Rose

November 8<sup>th</sup>



Pear Leaf

November 15<sup>th</sup>



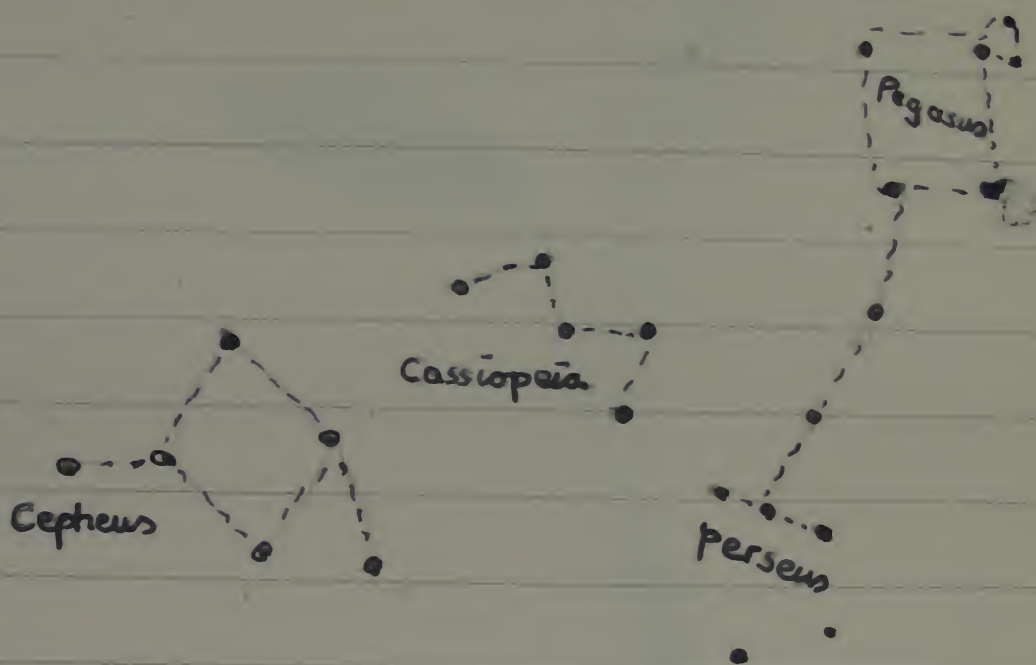
PS8CMC60



Stinking  
Iris

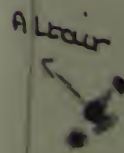
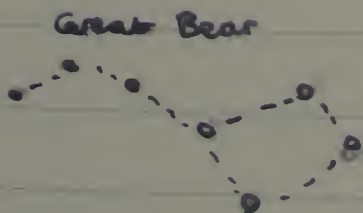
# Star Map

Late Autumn.



☿ Plaiades

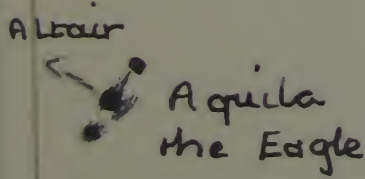
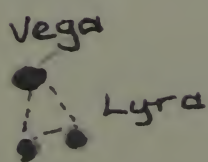
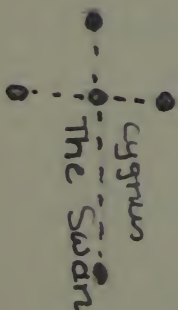
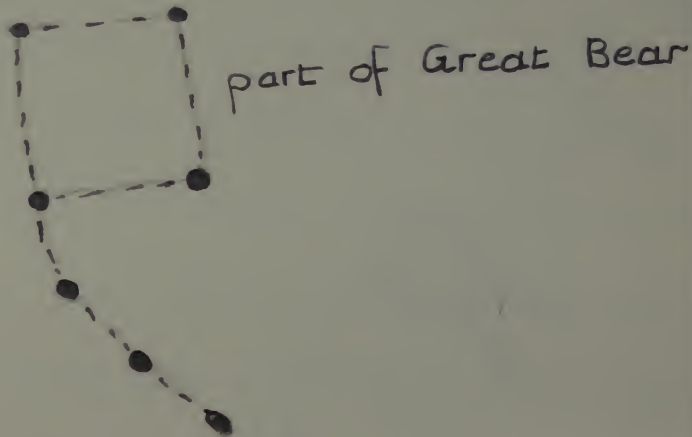
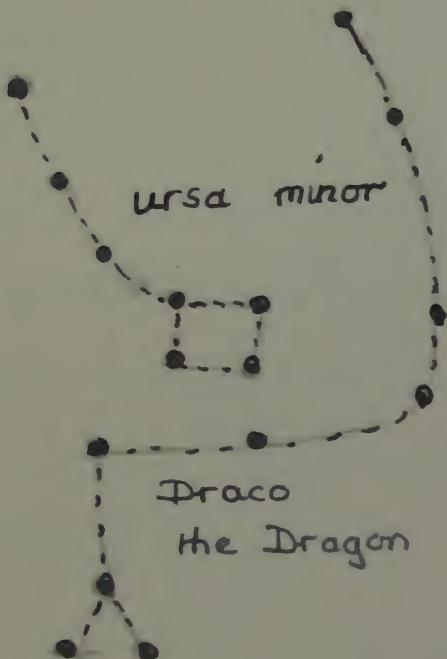
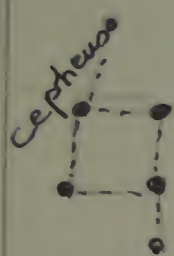
• pole star





# The Northern Sky in Autumn

p60cm60



Рысунки

SPRING

TERMS

January

January



Spring Term 1934January 23<sup>rd</sup>

Today we went a very interesting nature-walk. The weather was mild and sunny. We found several flowers, and the leaves of Cuckoo-pink. We saw something moving about in a mass of weed, on the lake, it looked as if a bird had somehow got caught. We threw a stick into the water, and the creature dived, and did not re-appear. Coming back we found an ash tree that was still laden with last year's fruit. We also found some fungus.

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January 28<sup>th</sup>

On Saturday we had a Field-club outing. The weather was very cold, and it was snowing hard, so we did not find as much as last time. Just before we reached the Billing gate,



we saw a tree that had been blown down, the night before. In its fall, it had brought with it the greater part of another tree.

We found quite a lot of Fungi, and some mosses. We also found several ~~twigs~~ different kinds of twigs, and the flowers of red dead nettle, barren strawberry, ordinary strawberry and blackberry. We went down into a little dell near, the trespassing woods, out of which flew a great many long-tailed tits

Feb 1<sup>st</sup>  
Jan

Yesterday we went to Bedford, From the bus, we saw quite a lot of birds, including, a heron, a blackbird, a dabchick and others.

Feb 11<sup>th</sup>

Looking out of our dormitory window this morning, we saw



p64 C.M.C.60



Sycamore Buds

January 22<sup>nd</sup>

P65EHC60



Red-dead nettle

Feb:

Mar:



two beautiful wild swans, flying over the lake.

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Feb: 12<sup>th</sup>.

Today we went a Nature-walk. We went past the Billing Gate, and went over the tree, that is blown down, there. We saw that a great many roots were rotten. We saw some beautiful examples of medullary rays. We went down the Billing Track, we noticed that all the trees were covered with a sort of corky growth. We found lots of twigs, and got some very good specimens of willow. We also saw several new ~~to~~ birds.

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March: 12<sup>th</sup>.

Last week we went a very interesting nature walk, right round the Lake. We saw several birds, and some last years nest, but no new ones. On the way back we found a very good skeleton of a fish, which we brought back



For Nature painting.

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Written in March

The cock is crowing,  
The stream is flowing,  
The small birds twitter,  
The lake doth glitter,  
The green field sleeps in the sun;  
The oldest and youngest  
Are at work with the strongest;  
The cattle are grazing,  
Their heads never raising;  
There are forty feeding like one.

Like an army defeated  
The snow hath retreated  
And now doth fare ill  
On the top of the bare hill;  
The ploughboy is whooping - anon - anon;  
There's joy in the mountains;  
There's life in the fountains;  
Small clouds are sailing,  
Blue sky prevailing;  
The rain is over and gone



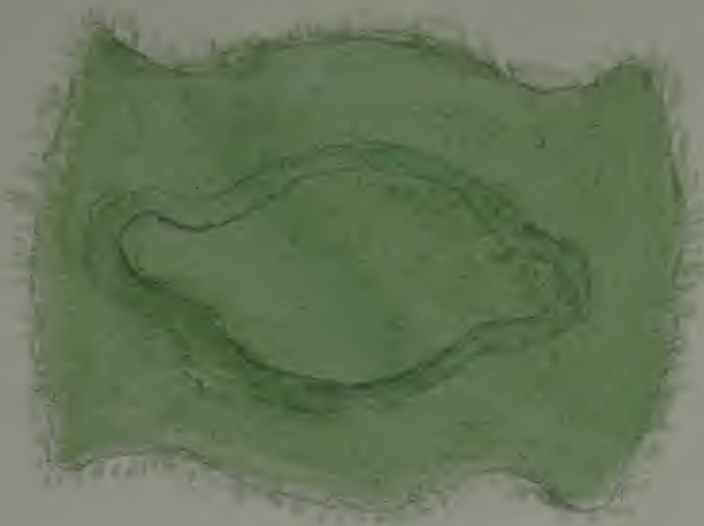
P68CM60

P68CM60



Spruce Cone

Feb: 5<sup>th</sup>



Section of Boxstem.



Section of Willow stem.



Section of Willow stem. near Bud



CHC60

p70CMC60



Black Poplar

Feb: 19<sup>th</sup>

P71CH60



ColtsFoot

Feb: 26<sup>th</sup>



P720HC60



Willow Catkins

March 12<sup>th</sup>

P 73 MC 60



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U  
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7364660

P7464660

Summer Term 1935

Song on May Morning

Now the bright morning star, Day's harbinger,  
Comes dancing from the east, and leads with her  
The flowery May, who from her green lap throws  
The yellow cowslip and the pale primrose.

Hail, bounteous May, that does inspire  
Mirth, and youth, and warm desire!

Woods and groves are of thy dressing;  
Hill and dale doth boast thy blessing.

Thus we salute thee with our early song,  
And welcome thee, and wish thee long.

John Milton

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June 1<sup>st</sup>

Today we went for a field-club, expedition. We went to a place called Great Doddington. There was a little stream, with fields on either side. We found many new flowers, including cut-leaved geranium, Tormentil, Thyme-leaved speedwell, and many others.

We saw two Great Tits flying about, the overhanging willows, they were both carrying food, and seemed very disturbed by our watching them. We also saw a reed bunting. We caught various "bugs" including Alder flies, a white slug, and a scorpion. The weather was perfect for watching nature, and we had a very enjoyable afternoon.

June 10<sup>th</sup>

Today we went for a Nature walk. The ground was very wet, as it had been raining. We went by the two lakes, and through the wood at the back, coming out near the Sywell gate. We found in the wood, white-beam, three-nerved sandwort, procumbent pearlwort, and tway blade.

June 12<sup>th</sup>

Yesterday I was walking through the amphitheatre.



P76CHC60



Cuckoo Flower

May 9<sup>th</sup>

P77CHC60



Germander Speedwell

May 22<sup>nd</sup>



Broom

May 22<sup>nd</sup>

July

July 16



P78CMC60

we saw four thrushes' nests, three of them had eggs in, and the fourth had four tiny birds, we also found ~~an~~ hedge-sparrow's nest, containing several young. In a tree we found a tiny wren. On the way up to a rehearsal, we found a tiny baby spotted-flycatcher, he was lying at the bottom of a tree, so we put him back in the nest.

July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Today we went a very interesting Nature walk. We went towards the two lakes, and made a note of every flower we found, and consequently found several new ones, amongst which were herb bennet, rose bay willow herb, procumbent pearlwort, and woody nightshade. We fished in one of the lakes, and found several interesting "bugs", including one big one, that had two tails.

July 16<sup>th</sup>

Whilst we were having Nature painting, we notice a moth that had become entangled in a spider's web, in the corner of the window-sill. The spider was going on



weaving its web, and the moth was nearly suffocated. It looked so pathetic, that we broke the web, and let it fly away.

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July 23<sup>rd</sup>

About a week ago Miss Duncan found a Poplar Hawk moth. It layed ~~several~~ <sup>several</sup> eggs and last night two of them hatched out into tiny green caterpillars. They both had the characteristic horn on their tails. This morning they were both very lively and crawling all round their box looking for poplar leaves.

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July 24<sup>th</sup>

There are two pigeons that perch outside our dormitory window every morning. They are very pretty, but they make quite a noise with their cooing. They have come regularly now, since the beginning of term.

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P 80CM60



Marguerite



Long stalked cranebill



celery leaved buttercup

July 3<sup>rd</sup>



ladies bedstraw

July 10<sup>th</sup>



P82CM60



Lime

July 16<sup>th</sup>

PBSCHGO

AUTUMN

TERM

1935



Woody Nightshade  
Berries

Oct: 4<sup>th</sup>



Autumn Term 1935.Oct: 10<sup>th</sup>

As we were coming up to the works this morning, we saw a squirrel running — quite slowly — across the games field. He stopped several times, and when we reached the trees, he was still on a bed with us.

Oct: 21<sup>st</sup>

This morning we found there had been a heavy frost, — the first this year — when we went up to the works, the gamesfield was still quite white, and shining. Just as we reached the cloakroom, we saw another squirrel sitting quite unafraid, in the middle of the road, eating a nut.

Oct: 30<sup>th</sup>

Yesterday we went for a long nature walk. We went out of the Sywell gate and then along the road towards Sywell, we turned up past the Vicarage, and came in between the two lakes. It was very windy, and rained most of the time, but even so the leaves looked beautiful, in their different tints. We found clumps of <sup>white</sup> "dead nettle, still flowering from by the



roadside, but all other flowers are over.

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Nov 14<sup>th</sup> Today I painted some Larch cones, so we put one cone on the radiator; after about ten minutes ~~one~~ several of the seeds fell out, so I was able to paint one separately.

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Dec 4<sup>th</sup> As we were going into the dining-room a little mouse rushed out of the passage into the Study.

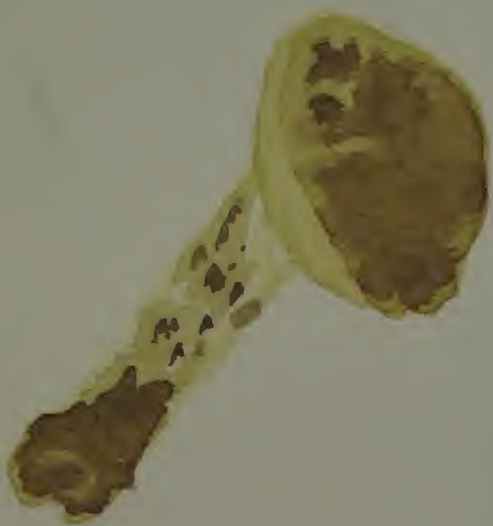
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Dec 10<sup>th</sup> We saw a nuthatch on a tree outside the form-room window this-morning, his bright colours looked very pretty in the sunlight

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P86C4C60



OCT: 19<sup>th</sup>

P87CR60



Hawthorn Leaves  
Oct 24<sup>th</sup>



P82CM60



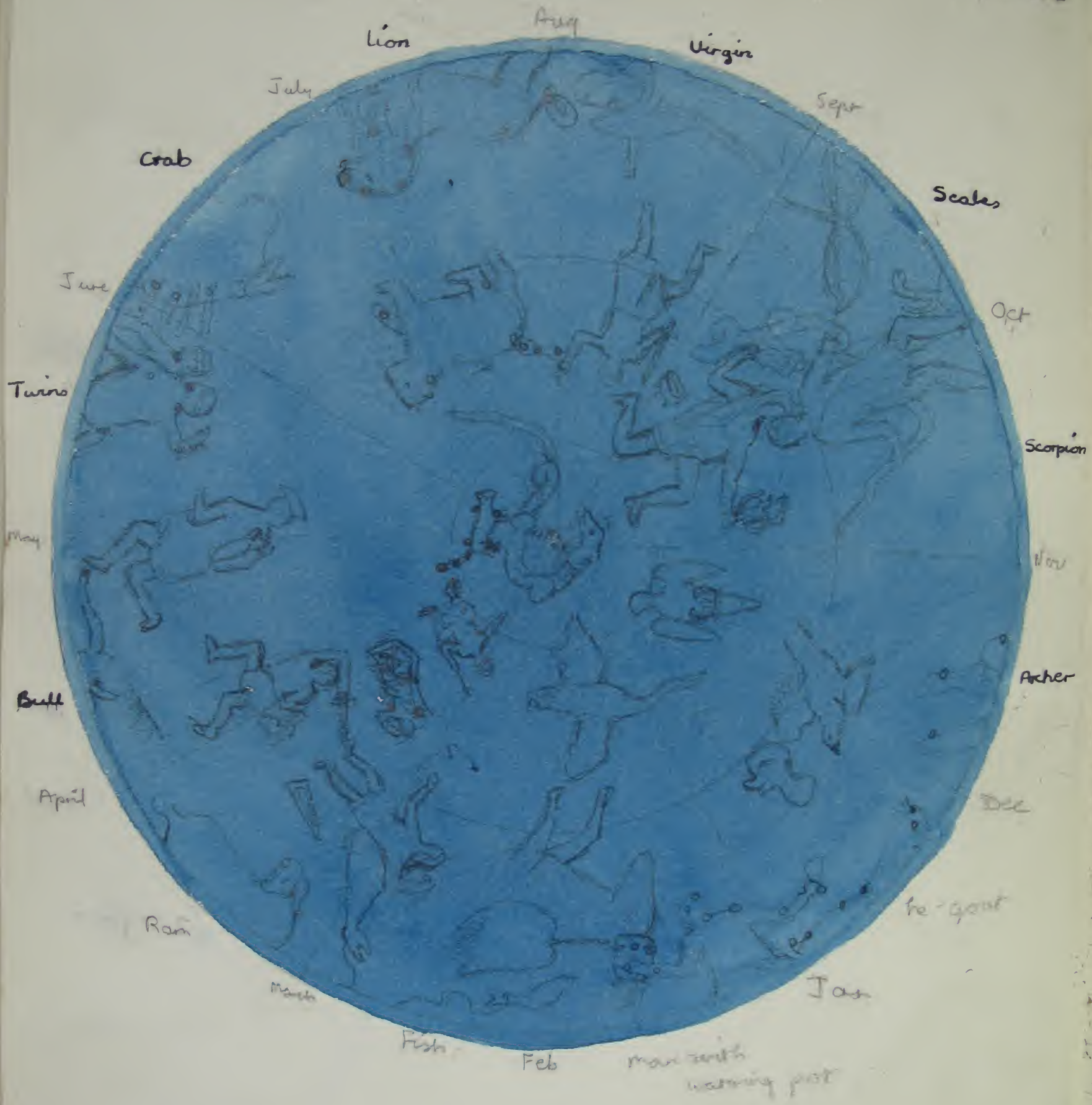
One seed  
(enlarged.)

Larch cones  
November 14<sup>th</sup>



The Northern Sky.

p89cm60





## The Signs of The Zodiac

The Ram, the Bull, the Heavenly Twins,  
And next the Crab, the Lion shines,  
The Virgin and the Scales,  
The Scorpion, Archer, and He-Goat,  
The Man that holds the watering-pot  
The Fish with shining tails.



Spring Term 1936

Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> When we came back to school the ground was covered with snow, and yesterday some people were skating on the lake, but when we woke up this morning the snow had gone and today has been very windy, but warm and sunny, more like March than January.

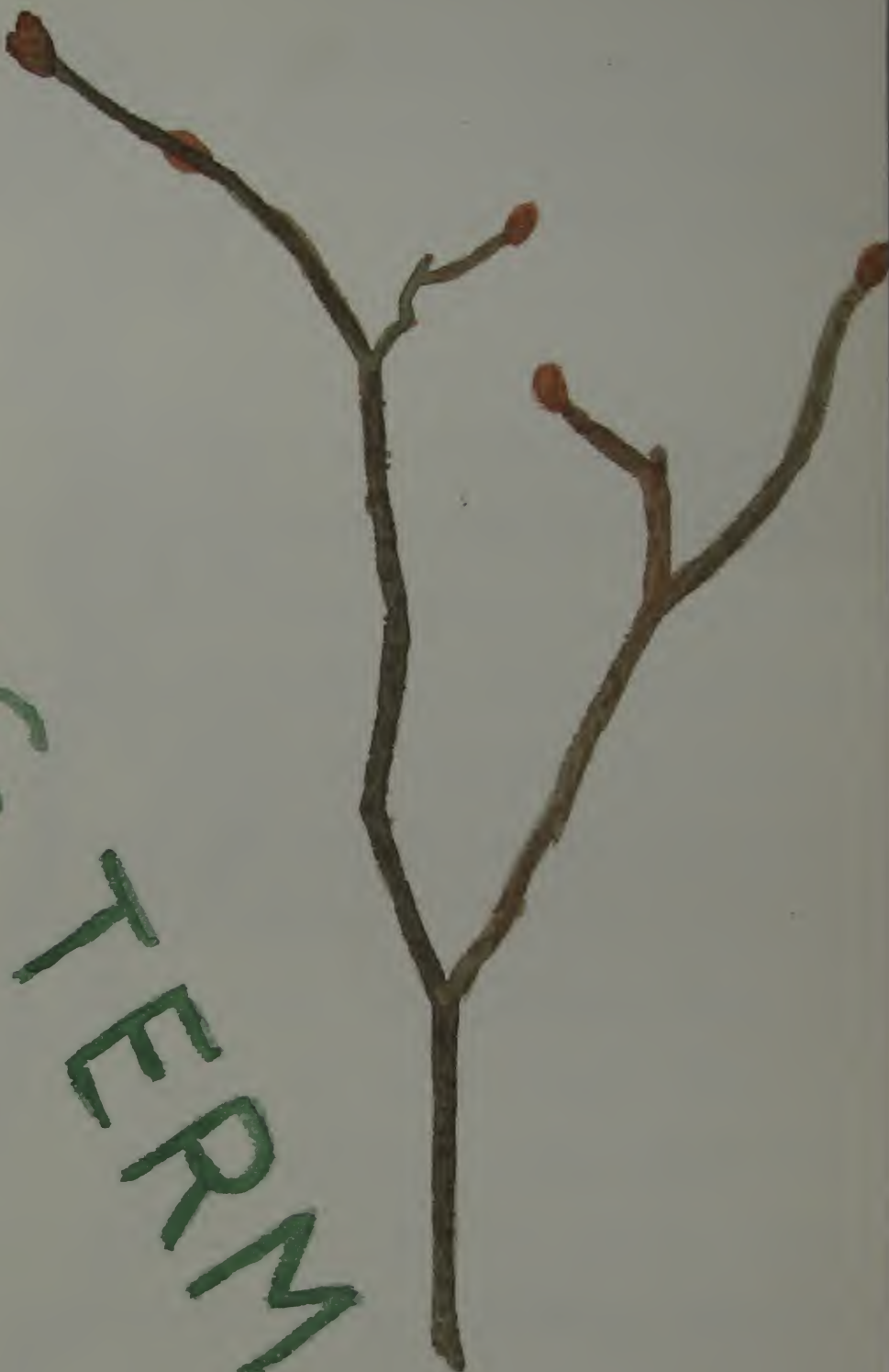
Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> Yesterday we went for a Nature Walk, the weather was mild and damp. We found some pussy-willows, showing both the male and female flowers. We also found beech, ash, and sycamore buds. We saw some bull-finches among the trees and also some green-finches and blue tits. Coming back between the two lakes we saw a man fishing, he had caught several roach, which he was using as bait for larger fish.

Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> On Saturday we went to Bedford. We were on top of the bus so we had a



P92CM60

SPRING  
1936  
TERN



P93CH600



Willow  
Catkins  
Feb 4<sup>th</sup>



beautiful view of the surrounding country. Near Billing and again near Bedford, were huge floods, especially where a river had overflowed its banks.

Feb 10<sup>th</sup>

Last Friday in Guides we had a nature competition, in which we went out in patrols. We went down by the two lakes, we found that the ice was about  $\frac{1}{2}$  half an inch thick near the edge but that near the centre it was very thin, and a current of water went across from one side to the other.

We found the box was in flower, — the flowers grow in the axils of each leaf, the rhododendron was also coming into bud, the lilac was in bud and we found some alder catkins. Several goldcrests were flitting about in the trees, the goldcrests are the smallest birds in England, they are a soft greeny brown colour, with a touch of yellow and white on the wings, and a very conspicuous golden crest. They have a characteristic mode of flight — flitting from tree to tree. —



We saw several moorhens "walking" down to the lake, when they reached it some of them swam and others flew across the surface. On the way back we saw a flock of wild duck, they always fly in a "V" shaped formation and fly with very quick wing beats.

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Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>

Yesterday we went for a nature-walk, we went out of the Billing Gate, and turned to the right when we reached the cross-roads, we turned to the right across a field, and went round the trespassing woods. The ground was very hard and frosty and there were few flowers to be seen. We passed the old fossil heap, but we could not find any more. We were looking out for red-wings and field-fares, but we didn't see any.

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p960H660



Willow Catkins

March 2<sup>nd</sup>

March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Yesterday we went for a nature walk, we went the same way as on January 30<sup>th</sup>, across to the Sywell drive, turning off to the right and then to the left through the woods. We watched chaffinches, some which looked very like bullfinches but we decided they were only chaffinches. We listened to the song of a ~~bar~~ blue tit, and tried to write down its song.

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March 11<sup>th</sup>

Yesterday we went for a Nature Walk. We went out between the two lakes and went to the <sup>Sywell</sup> woods, on the other side. We found several patches of wild snowdrops and also some extraordinarily extremely large willow catkins. The weather was warm and sunny, and felt like spring! We also saw many lambs frolicking in the fields.

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## Summer Term.

April 28<sup>th</sup>

When we were down by the lake we saw a coot's nest with four eggs in it. It is built so that it protrudes right out into the lake but is just above the level of the water.

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May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Yesterday we went for a very interesting nature walk. Going down to the lake we saw a partridge suddenly whirr away and looking amongst the grass we found a nest with one egg in it. On an oak tree nearby we found some huge oak apples.

We went down as near the water as possible, and found Brooklime, and water cress. Under the landing stage we found lots of little red spiders. We went round to the coot's nest, past hawthorn trees laden with blossom but found no eggs, so they have either flown or else the eggs have been taken.

When we left the nest we saw a huge dragon fly, on a bush, its wings were about ~~two~~ inches across and the length of its body, nearly three. It seemed unable to fly, but perched on our hands and fluttered its wings. We took it with us, for quite a long

p99CHC60

SUMMER  
TERM



Bluebell

May 18<sup>th</sup>